

August 2026

FROM THE 2025-26 NATIONAL AMERICANISM COMMITTEE



As I sit here writing this article for the final newsletter for the 2025-26 Americanism Committee, I cannot believe how the past eleven months have flown by! It seems like yesterday we arrived back from the National Convention in Tampa eager to begin our appointments to this committee.

It has been an amazing year for the Americanism program. As I read the year-end reports and award submissions, I was truly amazed by how our members embraced every facet of this huge program, not only in the traditional ways, but in very creative and interesting ways as well. You will hear about some of these accomplishments at our pre-convention meeting and when the Americanism report is presented on stage at National Convention. Watch closely to see if one of the pictures you submitted appears in the slideshow.

We had hundreds of entries for the Americanism Essay Contest. Students from all over the country wrote interesting and thought-provoking essays on the topic "Celebrating America's 250th Birthday, and the Veterans who Fought for Our Freedom". A list of all the winners will be available on our pre-convention meeting.

Members worked together as The Legion Family to be visible in their communities. As we celebrated America's 250th Birthday on July 4th, our Legion Family was there for the speeches, parades, and fireworks, showing our patriotism and pride in our great country.

I want to thank our committee, Vice Chair Debra Rumery, and our Division Chairs, Laura Clark, Carrie Cropey, Tammy Harris, Treva Wildrick, and Marianne Ward for their hard work this year. I also want to thank all our very dedicated Department Chairmen for an outstanding year of bringing flag education to our youth, and civic pride and patriotism to our communities. Thank you all for a great year! Please continue to celebrate America, and the veterans who fought for our freedom!



Upcoming Patriot Dates
to Remember

September 7th
Labor Day

September 11th
Patriots Day

September 17th
Constitution Day

September 18th
POW/MIA Recognition Day

September 27th
Gold Star Mother's Day

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Americanism
Pre-Convention Meeting
Monday, August 24th
7:00 PM

Register with this link:

<https://www.legion-aux.org/Virtual-Pre-Con-Meetings>

All members are welcome to attend; however, each department must register an official representative.

Award winners will be announced!

National President Pam Ray's theme for this year is:
"Mission Driven, Family Focused"





As we approach the end of the administrative year, I want to extend my heartfelt thanks to each and every one of you for making this year a great one for the Americanism Program in the Northwestern Division. Your hard work shows in all that you do and it has been an absolute pleasure serving as your divisional chair for this cornerstone program.

If you are continuing to serve as your Department Chair next year, I wish you the very best as you wrap up this year and begin a new one. If you are not continuing to serve as your Department Chair, I wish you the best in your endeavors and hope that you will remain available to next year's Department Chairs as a mentor.

There are a few key dates to remember this month. First, the Preconvention Zoom will be held on Monday August 24 at 7:00 p.m. Eastern Time. Be sure to register and attend as we celebrate all of the accomplishments of the past year. These meetings are open to any member, so even if you aren't your Department's Official Representative, you can still register and attend as a guest.

National Convention officially starts on August 31 and I hope to be able to see your beautiful faces there. If you aren't going to be in Louisville, Kentucky, you can always tune in via the livestream.

Keep up the great work and thank you for all you do.

Dates to Remember:

- 8/4—Coast Guard Birthday
- 8/7—Purple Heart Day
- 8/10—US DOD Birthday and Agent Orange Awareness day
- 8/14—Navajo Code Talker Day
- 8/16—National Airborne Day
- 8/29—Marine Corps Reserve Birthday

You can always contact me if you have questions or concerns. My contact information is:

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